

1991; AMELIA M. LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the CAROL A. **CARLETON TRUST** 3 AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 4 1991; CAROL ANN CARLETON,

TRUSTEE of the FILOMENA R.

BUCKINGHAM TRUST 6

AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2,

1991; FILOMENA R. 7

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BUCKINGHAM, TRUSTEE of the FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM

TRUST AGREEMENT DATED

MAY 2, 1991; AMELIA M. 10

LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the 11

FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM

TRUST AGREEMENT DATED 12

MAY 2, 1991; CAROL ANN 13

CARLETON, TRUSTEE of the

14 AMELIA M. LUCAS TRUST

AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 15

1991; FILOMENA R.

16 BUCKINGHAM, TRUSTEE of the

AMELIA M. LUCAS TRUST 17

AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2,

1991; AMELIA M. LUCAS,

TRUSTEE of the AMELIA M.

LUCAS TRUST AGREEMENT 20

DATED MAY 2, 1991; LARRY M.

21 LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the LUCAS

FAMILY TRUST U/D/T DATED 22

JANUARY 22, 1991; AMELIA M. 23

LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the LUCAS

FAMILY TRUST U/D/T DATED 24

JANUARY 22, 1991, 25

Defendants. 26

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I. SUMMARY

1. This is a civil rights action by plaintiff Chris Kohler ("Kohler") for discrimination at the building, structure, facility, complex, property, land, development, and/or surrounding business complex known as:

Stonecrest Shell 3690 Murphy Canyon Road San Diego, CA 92123 (hereafter "the Gas Station")

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2. Kohler seeks damages, injunctive and declaratory relief, attorney fees and costs, against Stonecrest Gas & Wash, Inc. dba Stonecrest Shell; Stonecrest Plaza, LLC; Barry Jay Stone; Stonecrest Square Auto Center, LLC; Vincent Manno, Trustee of the Vincent D. Manno Trust Agreement dated April 23, 1991; Carol Ann Carleton, Trustee of the Carol A. Carleton Trust Agreement Dated May 2, 1991; Filomena R. Buckingham, Trustee of the Carol A. Carleton Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Amelia M. Lucas, Trustee of the Carol A. Carleton Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Carol Ann Carleton, Trustee of the Filomena R. Buckingham Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Filomena R. Buckingham, Trustee of the Filomena R. Buckingham Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Amelia M. Lucas, Trustee of the Filomena R. Buckingham Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Carol Ann Carleton, Trustee of the Amelia M. Lucas Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Filomena R. Buckingham, Trustee of the Amelia M. Lucas Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Amelia M. Lucas, Trustee of the Amelia M. Lucas Trust Agreement dated May 2, 1991; Larry M. Lucas, Trustee of the Lucas Family Trust U/D/T dated January 22, 1991; and, Amelia M. Lucas, Trustee of the Lucas Family Trust U/D/T dated January 22, 1991 (collectively "Stonecrest Shell") pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), and related California statutes.

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II. JURISDICTION

- 3. This Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343 for ADA claims.
- 4. Supplemental jurisdiction for claims brought under parallel California law—arising from the same nucleus of operative facts—is predicated on 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
 - 5. Kohler's claims are authorized by 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

III. VENUE

6. All actions complained of herein take place within the jurisdiction of the United States District Court, Southern District of California, and venue is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), (c).

IV. PARTIES

- 7. Stonecrest Shell owns, operates, or leases the Gas Station, and consists of a person (or persons), firm, or corporation.
- 8. Kohler was shot in the back in 1988, which left him paralyzed from the waist down. Kohler requires the use of a wheelchair when traveling about in public. Consequently, Kohler is "physically disabled," as defined by all applicable California and United States laws, and a member of the public whose rights are protected by these laws.

V. FACTS

- 9. The Gas Station is a service establishment, open to the public, which is intended for nonresidential use and whose operation affects commerce.
- 10. Kohler visited the Gas Station and encountered barriers (both physical and intangible) that interfered with—if not outright denied—his ability to use and enjoy the goods, services, privileges, and accommodations offered at the facility. To the extent known by Kohler, the barriers at the Stonecrest Shell included, but are not limited to, the following:

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- There is no accessible path of travel from the street and sidewalk to the entrance;
- There is a built-up curb ramp that encroaches into the accessible stall;
- The west side entrance's door landing and walkway cross slope exceed 2.0%;
- There is no directional signage along the path of travel (east side of property);
- The tow away signage is not the correct color;
- The tow away signage is missing the text information (ie., telephone number);
- The International Symbol of Accessibility ("ISA") in the accessible stall is not the correct size
- The "van accessible" signage is not the correct dimensions;
- The slope of the accessible stall ranges from 3.9% to 5.3%;
- The slope of the access aisle ranges from 3.4% to 10.3%;
- The ISA on the primary (north side) entrance is not mounted at the correct height;
- The door handles at the primary (north side) entrance are not accessible;
- The ISA on the east side entrance is not mounted at the correct height, nor is it the correct size;
- The door handles on the east side entrance are not accessible;
- The ISA on the west side entrance is not mounted at the correct height, nor is it the correct size;
- There is no volume control nor ISA on either of the public telephones;
- There is no access over the curb to the public telephones;
- The "landing" area around the public telephones does not sit level, and slopes 2.8%;

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- The "landing" area around the air and water supply does not sit level, and slopes 5.1%;
- The ramp on the west side slopes between 5.5% and 7.8% and does not have handrails on both sides;
- There is no curb at the edge of the west side patio drop off;
- The ramp on the west side does not have a level landing at the bottom, nor
 does it have detectable warnings where the landing intersects the vehicular
 way;
- The walkway in front of the store to the car wash has cross slopes from 2.4% to 2.9%;
- The landing at the north entry slopes 2.7%;
- The landing at the east entry slopes 4%;
- The landing at the west entry slopes 3.2;
- The door mat at the entry is not securely attached;
- The accessible route to the men's restroom is blocked by merchandise;
- The toilet tissue dispenser is mounted above the side grab bar, creating an obstruction to the side grab bar;
- The toilet tissue dispenser protrudes into the clear maneuvering space needed at the water closet;
- The toilet tissue dispenser is mounted 54 inches from the back wall and is mounted higher than 19 inches;
- The 'P' trap projects 11-1/2 inches from the back wall into the clear knee space;
- The water heater encroaches into the clear knee space needed underneath the lavatory;
- The stall compartment door does not close completely;
- The distance from the side wall to the center of the water closet is only 16-5/8 inches;

- The stall door does not have a "U" shaped handle on the outside;
- There are no tactile exit signs at the fire exits;
- The ISA signs at the fire exits are not mounted at the correct height;
- The top of the snack transaction counter is 37 inches from the floor;
- The top of the transaction counter is 36 inches from the floor;
- The bottom of the concrete patio table is 26-½ inches from the floor
- There is no accessible seating on the patio;
- There is no signage near the gas pumps informing disabled patrons of how to obtain service assistance;
- The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 1;
- The ISA button is 57-¾ inches from the floor on Pump 1;
- The paper towel dispenser is mounted at 66 inches on Pump 1;
- The windshield scrubber is at 56 inches on Pump 1;
- The curb on Pump 1 prevents access to the paper towel dispenser, the windshield scrubber, the card, reader, and the accessible button;
- The card reader is $58-\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the floor on Pump 2;
- The ISA button is 57-½ inches from the floor on Pump 2;
- The horizontal dimension from the face of the curb to the card reader or accessible button is 12 inches on Pump 2;
- The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 3;
- The ISA button is 58 inches from the floor on Pump 3;
- The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 4;
- The ISA button is 58 inches from the floor on Pump 4;
 - The card reader is 60 inches above the floor on Pump 5;
 - The ISA button is 59 inches from the floor on Pump5;
 - The paper towel dispenser is mounted at 66 inches on Pump 5;
 - The windshield scrubber is at 56 inches on Pump 5;

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- The curb on Pump 5 prevents access to the paper towel dispenser, the windshield scrubber, the card, reader, and the accessible button;
- The card reader is 60 inches above the floor on Pump 6;
- The ISA button is 59 inches from the floor on Pump 6;
- The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 7;
- The ISA button is 58 inches from the floor on Pump 7;
- The paper towel dispenser is mounted at 66 inches on Pump 7;
- The windshield scrubber is at 56 inches on Pump 7;
- The curb on Pump 7 prevents access to the paper towel dispenser, the windshield scrubber, the card, reader, and the accessible button;
- The card reader is 59-1/2 inches above the floor on Pump 8;
- The ISA button is 58-1/2 inches from the floor on Pump 8;
- The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 9;
 - The ISA button is 57-1/2 inches from the floor on Pump 9;
 - The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 10;
- The ISA button is 58 inches from the floor on Pump 10;
- The card reader is 59 inches above the floor on Pump 11;
 - The ISA button is 58 inches from the floor on Pump 11;
 - The paper towel dispenser is mounted at 66 inches on Pump 11;
 - The windshield scrubber is at 56 inches on Pump 11;
 - The curb on Pump 11 prevents access to the paper towel dispenser, the windshield scrubber, the card, reader, and the accessible button;
 - The card reader is 60 inches above the floor on Pump 12;
 - The ISA button is 58 inches from the floor on Pump 12;

These barriers prevented Kohler from enjoying full and equal access.

11. Kohler was also deterred from visiting the Gas Station because he knew that the Gas Station's goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations were unavailable to physically disabled patrons (such as

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27 28 himself). He continues to be deterred from visiting the Gas Station because of the future threats of injury created by these barriers.

- Kohler also encountered barriers at the Gas Station, which violate state and federal law, but were unrelated to his disability. Nothing within this Complaint, however, should be construed as an allegation that Kohler is seeking to remove barriers unrelated to his disability.
- 13. Stonecrest Shell knew that these elements and areas of the Gas Station were inaccessible, violate state and federal law, and interfere with (or deny) access to the physically disabled. Moreover, Stonecrest Shell have the financial resources to remove these barriers from the Gas Station (without much difficulty or expense), and make the facility accessible to the physically disabled. To date, however, Stonecrest Shell refuses to either remove those barriers or seek an unreasonable hardship exemption to excuse non-compliance.
- At all relevant times, Stonecrest Shell has possessed and enjoyed sufficient control and authority to modify the subject property to remove impediments to wheelchair access and to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines and Title 24 regulations. Stonecrest Shell has not removed such impediments and has not modified the subject property to conform to accessibility standards. Stonecrest Shell has intentionally maintained the subject property in its current condition and has intentionally refrained from altering the subject property so that it complies with the accessibility standards.
- Kohler further alleges that the (continued) presence of barriers at the 15. facility is so obvious as to establish Stonecrest Shell's discriminatory intent. On information and belief, Kohler avers that evidence of this discriminatory intent includes Stonecrest Shell's refusal to adhere to relevant building standards;

E.g., Gunther v.Lin, 144 Cal.App.4th 223, fn. 6 Kohler v. Stonecrest Shell, et al. Plaintiff's Complaint

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VI. FIRST CLAIM

interruptions in access due to maintenance or repairs.²

disregard for the building plans and permits issued for the facility; conscientious

decision to the architectural layout (as it currently exists) at the facility; decision

not to remove barriers from the facility; and allowance that Stonecrest Shell's

property continues to exist in its non-compliant state. Kohler further alleges, on

information and belief, that Stonecrest Shell is not in the midst of a remodel, and

that the barriers present at the facility are not isolated (or temporary)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Denial of "Full and Equal" Enjoyment and Use

- 16. Kohler incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 15 for this claim.
- 17. Title III of the ADA holds as a "general rule" that no individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment (or use) of goods, services, facilities, privileges, and accommodations offered by any person who owns, operates, or leases a place of public accommodation. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a).
- 18. Stonecrest Shell discriminated against Kohler by denying "full and equal enjoyment" and use of the goods, services, facilities, privileges or accommodations of the Gas Station during each visit and each incident of deterrence.

Failure to Remove Architectural Barriers in an Existing Facility

19. The ADA specifically prohibits failing to remove architectural barriers, which are structural in nature, in existing facilities where such removal is readily achievable. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv). The term "readily

² Id., 28 C.F.R. § 36.211(b) *Kohler v. Stonecrest Shell, et al.* **Plaintiff's Complaint**

achievable" is defined as "easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense." Id. § 12181(9).

- 20. When an entity can demonstrate that removal of a barrier is not readily achievable, a failure to make goods, services, facilities, or accommodations available through alternative methods is also specifically prohibited if these methods are readily achievable. Id. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(v).
- 21. Here, Kohler alleges that Stonecrest Shell can easily remove the architectural barriers at the Gas Station without much difficulty or expense, and that Stonecrest Shell violated the ADA by failing to remove those barriers, when it was readily achievable to do so.
- 22. In the alternative, if it was not "readily achievable" for Stonecrest Shell to remove the Gas Station's barriers, then Stonecrest Shell violated the ADA by failing to make the required services available through alternative methods, which are readily achievable.

Failure to Design and Construct an Accessible Facility

- 23. On information and belief, the Gas Station was designed or constructed (or both) after January 26, 1992—independently triggering access requirements under Title III of the ADA.
- 24. The ADA also prohibits designing and constructing facilities for first occupancy after January 26, 1993, that aren't readily accessible to, and usable by, individuals with disabilities when it was structurally practicable to do so. 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a)(1).
- 25. Here, Stonecrest Shell violated the ADA by designing or constructing (or both) the Gas Station in a manner that was not readily accessible to the physically disabled public—including Kohler—when it was structurally practical to do so.³

Nothing within this Complaint should be construed as an allegation that plaintiff is bringing this action as a private attorney general under either state or federal statutes.

Failure to Make an Altered Facility Accessible

- 26. On information and belief, the Gas Station was modified after January 26, 1992, independently triggering access requirements under the ADA.
- 27. The ADA also requires that facilities altered in a manner that affects (or could affect) its usability must be made readily accessible to individuals with disabilities to the maximum extent feasible. 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a)(2). Altering an area that contains a facility's primary function also requires adding making the paths of travel, bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving that area accessible to the maximum extent feasible. <u>Id.</u>
- 28. Here, Stonecrest Shell altered the Gas Station in a manner that violated the ADA and was not readily accessible to the physically disabled public—including Kohler—to the maximum extent feasible.

Failure to Modify Existing Policies and Procedures

- 29. The ADA also requires reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures, when necessary to afford such goods, services, facilities, or accommodations to individuals with disabilities, unless the entity can demonstrate that making such modifications would fundamentally alter their nature. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(ii).
- 30. Here, Stonecrest Shell violated the ADA by failing to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures at the Gas Station, when these modifications were necessary to afford (and would not fundamentally alter the nature of) these goods, services, facilities, or accommodations.
- 31. Kohler seeks all relief available under the ADA (*i.e.*, injunctive relief, attorney fees, costs, legal expense) for these aforementioned violations. 42 U.S.C. § 12205.
- 32. Kohler also seeks a finding from this Court (*i.e.*, declaratory relief) that Stonecrest Shell violated the ADA in order to pursue damages under California's Unruh Civil Rights Act or Disabled Persons Act.

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VII. SECOND CLAIM

Disabled Persons Act

- 33. Kohler incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 30 for this claim.
- 34. California Civil Code § 54 states, in part, that: Individuals with disabilities have the same right as the general public to the full and free use of the streets, sidewalks, walkways, public buildings and facilities, and other public places.
- 35. California Civil Code § 54.1 also states, in part, that: Individuals with disabilities shall be entitled to full and equal access to accommodations, facilities, telephone facilities, places of public accommodation, and other places to which the general public is invited.
- 36. Both sections specifically incorporate (by reference) an individual's rights under the ADA. See Civil Code §§ 54(c) and 54.1(d).
- 37. Here, Stonecrest Shell discriminated against the physically disabled public—including Kohler—by denying them full and equal access to the Gas Station. Stonecrest Shell also violated Kohler's rights under the ADA, and, therefore, infringed upon or violated (or both) Kohler's rights under the Disabled Persons Act.
- 38. <u>For each offense</u> of the Disabled Persons Act, Kohler seeks actual damages (both general and special damages), statutory minimum damages of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), declaratory relief, and any other remedy available under California Civil Code § 54.3.
- 39. He also seeks to enjoin Stonecrest Shell from violating the Disabled Persons Act (and ADA) under California Civil Code § 55, and to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and incurred under California Civil Code §§ 54.3 and 55.

VIII. THIRD CLAIM

Unruh Civil Rights Act

- 40. Kohler incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 30 for this claim.
- 41. California Civil Code § 51 states, in part, that: All persons within the jurisdiction of this state are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever.
- 42. California Civil Code § 51.5 also states, in part, that: No business establishment of any kind whatsoever shall discriminate against any person in this state because of the disability of the person.
- 43. California Civil Code § 51(f) specifically incorporates (by reference) an individual's rights under the ADA into the Unruh Act.
- 44. Stonecrest Shell's aforementioned acts and omissions denied the physically disabled public—including Kohler—full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges and services in a business establishment (because of their physical disability).
- 45. These acts and omissions (including the ones that violate the ADA) denied, aided or incited a denial, or discriminated against Kohler by violating the Unruh Act.
- 46. Kohler was damaged by Stonecrest Shell's wrongful conduct, and seeks statutory minimum damages of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for each offense.
- 47. Kohler also seeks to enjoin Stonecrest Shell from violating the Unruh Act (and ADA), and recover reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred under California Civil Code § 52(a).

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IX. FOURTH CLAIM

Denial of Full and Equal Access to Public Facilities

- 48. Kohler incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 13 for this claim.
- 49. Health and Safety Code § 19955(a) states, in part, that: California public accommodations or facilities (built with private funds) shall adhere to the provisions of Government Code § 4450.
- 50. Health and Safety Code § 19959 states, in part, that: Every existing (non-exempt) public accommodation constructed prior to July 1, 1970, which is altered or structurally repaired, is required to comply with this chapter.
- 51. Kohler alleges the Gas Station is a public accommodation constructed, altered, or repaired in a manner that violates Part 5.5 of the Health and Safety Code or Government Code § 4450 (or both), and that the Gas Station was not exempt under Health and Safety Code § 19956.
- 52. Stonecrest Shell's non-compliance with these requirements at the Gas Station aggrieved (or potentially aggrieved) Kohler and other persons with physical disabilities. Accordingly, he seeks injunctive relief and attorney fees pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 19953.

X. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Kohler prays judgment against Stonecrest Shell for:

- 1. Injunctive relief, preventive relief, or any other relief the Court deems proper.
- 2. Declaratory relief that Stonecrest Shell violated the ADA for the purposes of Unruh Act or Disabled Persons Act damages.

3. Statutory minimum damages under either sections 52(a) or 54.3(a) of the California Civil Code (but not both) according to proof.

- 4. Attorneys' fees, litigation expenses, and costs of suit.⁴
- 5. Interest at the legal rate from the date of the filing of this action.

DATED: January 16, 2008 DISABLED ADVOCACY GROUP, APLC

LYNN HUBBARD, III
Attorney for Plaintiff

This includes attorneys' fees under California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

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Plaintiff's Complaint



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SS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

| the civil docket sheet. (SEE IN | STRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.) | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS | | DEFENDANTS SEE ATTACHED LIST | |
| CHRIS KOHLER | | SEE ATTACHED LIST | |
| (b) County of Residence (EX | of First Listed Plaintiff SAN DIEGO (CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) | County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED. | |
| | | - AOT A NIC | |
| • • | Address, and Telephone Number) | Attorneys (If Known) 28 CV 0105 PMLS | |
| JISABLED ADVOCAC 12 WILLIAMSBURG LA | Y GROUP, APLC (530) 895-3252 NE. CHICO, CA 95926 | | |
| | | III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff | |
| U.S. Government Plaintiff | 180 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party) | (For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF Citizen of This State I I Incorporated or Principal Place Of Business In This State | |
| ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant | ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) | Citizen of Another State | |
| | (indicate Chizenship of Fairles in fem 11) | Citizen or Subject of a 3 3 Foreign Nation 3 6 5 6 Foreign Country | |
| | (Place an "X" in One Box Only) | FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES | |
| CONTRACT ☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment ☐ 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) ☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits ☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise ☐ REAL PROPERTY ☐ 210 Land Condemnation ☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment ☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property | PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane Product Liability | 1 | |
| ☑ 1 Original ☐ 2 1 | State Court Appellate Court | Reinstated or Reopened 5 Transferred from another district (specify) | |
| VI. CAUSE OF ACTI | ON Brief description of cause: | are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): | |
| VII DEQUEORES IN | Ongoing violations of the ADA Co | CURCULATED A LICE Annual dia complointi | |
| VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: | UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 | JURY DEMAND: | |
| VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY | E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE | DOCKET NUMBER | |
| DATE 01/15/2008 | SIGNATULE OF A | OF RECORD | |
| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | | | |
| RECEIPT # 146555 AMOUNT \$350 - 1/17/08 BH APPLYING IFP JUDGE MAG. JUDGE | | | |

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 11/04)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.

U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553

Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

LIST OF DEFENDANTS

- 1. STONECREST GAS & WASH, INC. DBA STONECREST SHELL
- 2. STONECREST PLAZA, LLC
- 3. BARRY JAY STONE
- 4. VINCENT MANNO, TRUSTEE of the VINCENT D. MANNO TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 23, 1991
- 5. CAROL ANN CARLETON, TRUSTEE of the CAROL A. CARLETON TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 6. FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM, TRUSTEE of the CAROL A. CARLETON TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 7. AMELIA M. LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the CAROL A. CARLETON TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 8. CAROL ANN CARLETON, TRUSTEE of the FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 9. FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM, TRUSTEE of the FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 10. AMELIA M. LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 11. CAROL ANN CARLETON, TRUSTEE of the AMELIA M. LUCAS TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 12. FILOMENA R. BUCKINGHAM, TRUSTEE of the AMELIA M. LUCAS TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 13. AMELIA M. LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the AMELIA M. LUCAS TRUST AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2, 1991
- 14. LARRY M. LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the LUCAS FAMILY TRUST U/D/T DATED JANUARY 22, 1991
- 15. AMELIA M. LUCAS, TRUSTEE of the LUCAS FAMILY TRUST U/D/T DATED JANUARY 22, 1991

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO DIVISION

146555 BH

January 17, 2008 15:54:42

Civ Fil Non-Pris

USAO #.: 08CV0105 CIVIL FILING

Judge..: M. JAMES LORENZ

\$350.00 CK Amount.:

Check#.: BC# 20556

Total-> \$350.00

FROM: KOHLER V. SHELL ET AL

CIVIL FILING